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University. Before the appearance of the volume many works were written on the deme, the most useful and attractive being Haussoullier's *Vie municipale en Attique*. Despite the title Haussoullier's monograph deals chiefly with organization, yet with no little illumination of life within the deme. Evidently the aim of The Johns Hopkins dissertation is to devote itself wholly to life, and thus to furnish a treatment of a subject that has been more or less neglected. From this point of view the most valuable parts are Chapter V (The Demesman in Drama) and Chapter VI (The Demesman in the Orators). The material furnished by the drama is substantially from Aristophanes. In dealing with the orators the author takes them individually in their chronological order. This method has its advantage in revealing the fact that a writer's attitude toward the deme was influenced by his social standing and other environmental conditions. Although the author occasionally cites an inscription, he does not seem to have used the epigraphic material for his purpose even to the extent that Haussoullier has used it. He should at least have made the attempt, and have informed the reader of the result, even though it were negative. Another great want is a chapter in which all his facts should be brought together and a reconstruction of deme life in its totality effected.

Had the author limited himself to a period beginning no earlier than the fifth century B. C., he would have produced a sounder work. In fact he has chosen to trace institutions from their beginnings without having provided himself with a thorough historical foundation. During the past two or three decades great advances have been made in our knowledge of the early institutional history of Greece, producing sounder views, with which Dr. Edwards should have made himself acquainted. An illustration is his treatment of the *γέρος* (18):

At the head of the *γέρος* stood an annually changing archon. This shows that the *γέρος* was once a military, political, and territorial unit. Attica is thought to have been settled by *γέρη*.

The archon, however, is not necessarily either military or territorial, and there is no proof that the *γέρος* was either the one or the other. That Attica was settled by *γέρη* is a speculation that has had its day. Views of the kind affect particularly the first four chapters; the rest of the volume is relatively free from such speculation, and therefore in the main sound. Although readers could wish for a more complete, mature and constructive treatment, they will certainly find the material gathered in this volume from Greek literature both interesting and valuable.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. GEORGE WILLIS BOTSFORD.

Selected Letters of Cicero. By Hubert McNeill Poteat. Boston: D. C. Heath and Company (1916). Pp. xii + 201. \$1.00.

This book, according to the Preface (v), is intended "to meet the needs of the Freshman, who, when he enters college, is suffering from indifferent teaching".

For this reason it is provided with very copious notes. The editor tells us that he has purposely made his Introduction very brief (two pages!), "because of the well-nigh universal habit among students of skipping that portion of a textbook altogether". Many subjects, however, that might appropriately have been treated in the Introduction (e. g. Cicero's correspondents) are briefly discussed here and there in the Notes, as occasion arises. The result is that the Introduction contains no sketch of Atticus, or of any other important correspondent of Cicero. Even the matter of letter-writing among the ancients is dismissed with a very few meager statements. The present edition contains 79 pages of text and 120 pages of notes. One feature of this book especially to be commended is a rather complete Index, which greatly facilitates reference.

The reviewer does not altogether share the editor's opinion about the universal neglect of the Introduction. All thoughtful and progressive teachers read the Introduction and, what is more, require their students to read and study it likewise. It would seem, then, that it would have been worth while to discuss more fully in the Introduction the essential facts of letter-writing among the Romans of Cicero's age, and to present together, there, brief sketches of the more important historical characters mentioned in the correspondence. In that event a cross-reference in the Notes to the Introduction would have been sufficient for all the principal personages mentioned in the text.

The editor is to be congratulated upon his happy selection, for he has chosen such letters as throw light upon Cicero's habits and character and upon the affairs, public or private, of that age. But of course this is the basis of selection of most recent editions. Nevertheless the present edition includes some letters of Cicero which are not usually found in the editions in general favor for class use. Furthermore, a welcome feature of this edition is the fact that the date and the place of writing of each letter are recorded in the Notes; these facts not infrequently help the student in the interpretation.

The editor adopts, with few variations, the text of Mueller (Teubner edition). In his Notes he makes frequent drafts on the scholarly editions of Tyrrell and Abbott, but always with generous acknowledgment of his indebtedness. The Notes are quite apt and to the point, and are sufficiently copious. Indeed, they seem almost too copious and, in some few instances, superfluous. The editor appears to have acted on the principle that the Freshman knows small Latin and less Greek, and that therefore very little is to be taken for granted. But surely a Freshman, it may be assumed, is acquainted with and can identify the first periphrastic (IV.2 *conciliatura coniuncturaque sit*), the accusative and infinitive (VI.1 *pueros venisse*), the indefinite pronoun (ibid. *quid*), the terminal accusative (VIII. 2 *Arpinum*), and the declension, if not the syntax, of the indefinite pronoun *quisquam* (IX.1 *cuiusquam*), etc. The difficult passages of the text are rendered into

English, either the editor's own translation, or that of Shuckburgh; for the latter due credit is given in every case. The editor very wisely translates all the Greek passages.

The book is well printed and presents an attractive appearance. The proof-reading has been well done; no errors have been detected by the reviewer. The editor has done his work admirably, for the most part; this edition of Cicero's selected letters will be found admirably adapted for use with Freshmen classes. It was certainly a happy idea of the editor to edit a collection of Cicero's letters for Freshmen, for it presents to them a different phase of the great orator's latinity from that which is reflected in his Orations and affords them an insight into the every-day speech of the Romans.

RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE.

EDWIN W. BOWEN.

Prolegomena to an edition of the works of Decimus Magnus Ausonius. By Sister Marie José Byrne. New York: Columbia University Press (1916). Pp. viii + 101. \$1.25.

This monograph, "approved by the Department of Classical Philology of Columbia University as a contribution to knowledge worthy of publication", justifies the endorsement of its sponsors. It comprises a Life of Ausonius, followed by chapters on his Friends and Correspondence, The Poet and his Works, the History of the Text, and Metre and Prosody. The little book ends with a very complete Bibliography, nearly all of which was available in the preparation of the monograph.

The work seems to be thoroughly and carefully done and the results are presented in an interesting and readable form. It is to be hoped that these Prolegomena will not be added to the long list of truncated works, but that they may be followed after a reasonable interval by the edition which is promised.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

JOHN C. ROLFE.

Greek and Roman Mythology. By Jessie M. Tatlock. New York: The Century Co. (1917). Pp. xxviii + 372. \$1.50.

That the intellectual life of the civilized man of to-day is for the most part the gift of bygone ages is a statement the truth of which is so obvious as scarcely to be challenged even by the most fanatic opponent of 'traditional' culture. No small part of the contribution made by Greece and Rome lies in the field of mythology. Not only have their ancient gods and heroes and the fortunes that attended them become a part of the stock in trade of the modern poet; cartoonist and journalist find in them apt material wherewith to point a moral or adorn a tale, and even the commercial world in this age of efficiency and up-to-date smartness drinks now and then from the same fountain, as the advertisements that greet us on every hand bear witness. How necessary, then, that young America should have some instruction

even in such musty lore! And yet any teacher of literature, be it ancient or modern, can testify to the almost total absence of knowledge on the part of his pupils of even the rudiments of classical mythology. The names of the characters that should be most familiar are regularly misspelled, their attributes and their exploits either wondrously confused or admitted to be unknown, and the request to explain an allusion is received with an air of injured innocence. This is the case even with the student in College.

Doubtless the ideal way to correct this sad state of things would be for the student to make the acquaintance of the gods and the heroes in the pages of Greek and Latin literature, where they are at home. The reading of even a portion of the two great poems of Homer and the Aeneid of Vergil would bring before him in a way never to be forgotten many of the chief figures of the heroic past. But even that seems to be too large an order for the average boy of to-day, and so, if he is not to remain in utter ignorance, he must, it seems, take the short-cut of the mythological handbook.

For this purpose the book of Miss Tatlock is admirably adapted. The writer has wisely chosen not to confuse and burden the reader by introducing too many of the minor personages and episodes but to give a clear and reasonably adequate account of the things of more importance. In this she has been highly successful. The book is divided into two parts: Part I, The Gods; Part II, The Heroes. The opening chapter, entitled The World of the Myths, treats in clear and simple language some of the more general aspects of the subject—the place of classical mythology in modern life, the preponderance of the Greek element, the development of Greek mythology, and the character of the Greek and Roman religions. The next six chapters deal in systematic fashion with the gods of Olympus. Chapters VIII to X are devoted to the Gods of the Sea, The Gods of the Earth, and The World of the Dead. The headings of Part II are Stories of Argos; Heracles; Stories of Crete, Sparta, Corinth, Aetolia; Stories of Attica; Stories of Thebes; The Argonautic Expedition; The Trojan War; The Wanderings of Odysseus; The Tragedy of Agamemnon; The Legendary Origin of Rome.

Miss Tatlock has had the good sense, in dealing with myths that are really Greek, to use the Greek names, even though the story be excerpted from a Latin writer. High praise also should be accorded for the easy, graceful way in which the stories follow one another, for the most part as if in inevitable sequence. Frequent citations or paraphrases from the ancient writers add to the charm of the narrative, which proved so readable that the reviewer found it difficult to maintain a critical attitude.

It may be for that reason that so few blunders came to light. There is no warrant for speaking of Iris (page 39) as the messenger of Hera. She served